From the President - Ken Olson

As I begin to compose this message, I am on the final flight home from spending nearly a week in Montpellier, France where I represented IFOMPT and provided presentations on topics including Advanced Practice Physiotherapy and Direct Access, Integration of Pain Science Education into an OMPT approach, and a full day workshop on TMD and CGH.

Over the same timeframe, Laura Finucane represented IFOMPT as a keynote speaker at the Second Annual OMTA Egypt Congress in Cairo. Additional speakers with ties to IFOMPT also presented at these two conferences, which further contributed to IFOMPT’s mission of worldwide advancement of OMPT and knowledge sharing.

The next major opportunity to promote IFOMPT on a world stage will be at the WCPT Congress in Geneva, Switzerland from May 11-13, 2019. The IFOMPT Executive Committee (EC) and Executive Director are making plans to host membership activities on Thursday afternoon and evening and all-day Friday prior to the Congress, May 9 and 10, 2019. This will provide great opportunities for networking, collaboration, and knowledge sharing, and the Standards Committee is also planning Friday afternoon workshops for the MOs and RIGS.

There are issues we need membership input on to build consensus and move the organisation forward toward the 2020 Conference in Melbourne. Foremost, is the proposed Constitutional change to allow the EC to make the final decision on the location of future IFOMPT conferences. The Advisory group on Finance has recommended and the EC concurs that this a critical step toward improving IFOMPT financial stability into the future. The EC will have the ability to assess the conference bids in an objective manner to determine which host country is best positioned to provide a profitable conference.

Other issues to be discussed include establishing a Taskforce for Constitutional Review following the Geneva meetings to update and modernise the Constitution and to consider if any changes in criteria for membership categories should be made to the Constitution, as is currently being researched by the Membership Qualifications Taskforce. The EC will also be looking to recruit MO delegates to make up a new Elections Committee to assure the Constitutional requirements are met for the 2020 election of office bearers in Melbourne.

The EC has been faced with a situation at our home office in Auckland, New Zealand, where we have subleased office space from the IFOMPT MO from New Zealand, NZMPA, for many years. NZMPA is undergoing significant organisational changes and have asked IFOMPT to consider a move to allow them more space to deal with their situation. As a result, we have signed a short-term lease agreement with our Executive Director, Ingrid du Toit, to allow Ingrid to continue business as usual from her home office effective March 5, 2019. Moving forward, Ingrid plans to form an Association Management Company that IFOMPT can contract with to allow greater flexibility in management of the organisation.

Ingrid’s role as Executive Director allows IFOMPT members to be more engaged in the development of programmes to benefit IFOMPT and its members. One example is the fact that Ingrid hosted nearly 70 teleconferences in 2018 for various committees, workgroups, and taskforces completing the work of IFOMPT. In addition, Ingrid along with the IFOMPT Treasurer, Paolo Sanzo, developed a very successful webinar offering for IFOMPT that has created both a member benefit and a new source of revenue. Ingrid also has played a significant role in helping to manage the finances of IFOMPT in such an efficient manner, that, along with a significant grant from AAOMPT, we ended 2018 with a small net gain in income.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone in Geneva. It should be a great IFOMPT Family reunion and opportunity to advance the mission of IFOMPT.

Regards,
Ken
Latest IFOMPT Developments

“If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself”
Henry Ford

IFOMPT Family to meet in Geneva in 2019

IFOMPT will be hosting several interactions for the IFOMPT Delegates at the time of the WCPT Congress in Geneva in May 2019. These will include meetings and workshops on 10 May 2019 and some down-time and opportunities to socialise and catch up on 9 May 2019. Renée de Ruijter has scouted out the area for us and she has arranged for the IFOMPT Committees to stay at the m3 Hôtel Ferney Voltaire which is in easy reach of the airport and Palexpo WCPT Conference venue and any delegates who would like to join us there, are welcome to contact them at https://www.m-3hotels.com

Marion Schreiner, our Swiss MO Delegate, is arranging a fun-filled afternoon in Geneva from 2pm to 5pm on Thursday, 9 May 2019. Details on where to meet and what the afternoon will entail will follow. Following the afternoon programme, we will all make our way to Restaurant Le National for dinner from 6pm onwards (Route de Suisse 31, 1290 Versoix, Switzerland). For budgetary purposes, meals are about CHF25-CHF30).

The Meetings on Friday, 10 May 2019 will take place at Hotel NH Geneva Airport, Avenue de Mategnin 21 1217 Meyrin, Geneva. Parking is available at CHF20/day.

The day will commence at 9am and run till about 5pm after which all that have booked to attend, will go to the WCPT opening ceremony at Geneva Arena at the Palexpo Complex at 6pm. The programme for the day will be as follows:
9:10:15 am - Advisory Group and Individual MO Meetings (Please let Ingrid know if you would like to meet with the EC or SC).
10:30-1:30 pm - Membership Meeting (Financial reporting, feedback from advisory groups, feedback on policy matters, SC feedback, general discussion leading to the next strategic planning, planning for Melbourne 2020, etc).
1:30-2:30 pm - Light lunch - please let Ingrid know if you have any specific dietary requirements.
2:30-4:30 pm - Standards Committee Workshops (Details to follow).

IFOMPT will have a Trade Stand (Stand P6) at the WCPT Congress and we invite all delegates to assist us in marketing IFOMPT at the stand. We will follow the same format as in Reno where we promoted IFOMPT and the 2020 Melbourne Conference through playing games and encouraging attendees to submit videos depicting the benefits of membership.

More information will be made available over the next month. Thank you very much to Renée and Marion for taking care of the logistics for the Geneva events!

IFOMPT 2020 Melbourne Website goes live

The arrangements for IFOMPT 2020 in Melbourne are gaining momentum and the website has gone live. Have a look at the website here

The following keynote presenters have all been confirmed: Associate Prof Annina Schmid, Prof Deborah Falla, Prof Michele Stirling, Prof Kim Bennell, Prof Paul Hodges, Associate Prof Mark Hancock and Dr Tania Pizzari.

The podium, poster, symposium and masterclass abstract submissions are open, and all the details are available at https://ifomptconference.org/abstracts/

Change of Address

New Contact Address for IFOMPT

The new contact details for IFOMPT are as follows:
IFOMPT
PO Box 301 295
Albany, Auckland 0752
New Zealand
Tel: +64 211 878 753
admin@ifompt.org
www.ifompt.org